Acquisition of sophisticated weapons by Pakistan

@2842-E. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH :
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan is buying top of the line M-1A1 Tank, known as ABRAMS from the United States ;

(b) whether Government are also aware of large scale purchase of sophisticated Airborne warning and Control System (AWACS) by Pakistan from America; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and what steps Government of India are taking in view of sophisticated arms and ammunition being acquired by Pakistan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) Government have seen reports that U.S.A. is considering the supply of M-1 ABRAM tanks and Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) to Pakistan. Government continues to maintain a constant Vigil over all developments having a bearing on the country's security.

'Village of wailing widows' a news item

@@2842-F. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in 'Patriot' dated the 21st October, 1986 captioned 'Village of wailing widows';

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government are contemplating any programmes for the welfare of the inhabitants of this village and medical facilities for the workers affected; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected.

Financial difficulties of the sugar factories in Maharashtra

@@@2842-G. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that co-operative sector sugar factories in certain districts of Maharashtra are facing difficulties due to stoppage of financial assistance by the IFCI, IDBI and other Central financial agencies;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what remedial measures have been taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) to (c) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) has reported that the financial institutions have withheld disbursements in respect of 5 new co-operative sugar projects in Maharashtra pending clearance of defaulted amounts, honouring of guarantees by Societies/State Government in respect of certain existing sugar mills. The matter has been taken up with the authorities concerned for clearing the overdues.

@Previously Unstarred Question 3209 transferred from the 4th December, 1986.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 3345, transferred from the 5th December, 1986.

@@@Previously Unstarred Question 3382, transferred from the 5th December, 1986.